What is globalization? What are its causes, components, and effects? How has it impacted American society and culture? And, how has the global flow of American cultural products and brands shaped perceptions of the United States at home and abroad? This course will address these questions by exploring the work of novelists, bloggers, filmmakers, artists and scholars. Focusing mainly on the last fifty years, we will trace the contours of globalization by exploring developments in the economy, immigration and migration, war and popular culture. Throughout, we will examine the tensions that have accompanied globalization, and analyze their effects on American society and culture.

Required texts include: Riverbend, Bagdad Burning; Ruth Ozeki, My Year of Meats; Jack Lule, Globalization & Media: Global Village of Babel, and a selection of other readings.

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